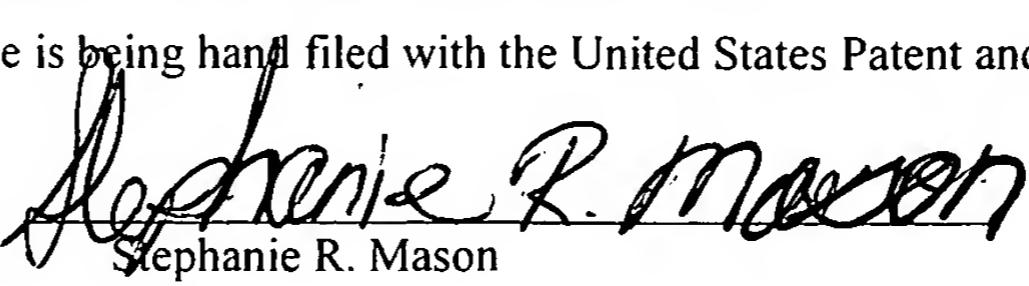




PATENT
Docket No. 360842008300

CERTIFICATE OF HAND DELIVERY

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being hand filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Alexandria, VA on January 28, 2004.


Stephanie R. Mason

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Masahiro KIHARA et al.

Serial No.: 10/058,100

Filing Date: January 29, 2002

For: DESALINATION METHOD AND
DESALINATION APPARATUS

Examiner: K. S. Menon

Group Art Unit: 1723

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Action of October 8, 2003, and further in response to the Notice of Non-Compliance of January 23, 2004, please amend this application as follows:

Amendments to claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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JAN 28 2004
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENT
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
P.O. Box 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

CR
Paper No.

Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)

The amendment document filed on 11/8/04 is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121, as amended on June 30, 2003 (see 68 Fed. Reg. 38611, Jun. 30, 2003). In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following item(s) is required. Only the corrected section of the non-compliant amendment document must be resubmitted (in its entirety), e.g., the entire "Amendments to the claims" section of applicant's amendment document must be re-submitted. 37 CFR 1.121(h).

THE FOLLOWING CHECKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

1. Amendments to the specification:
 A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
 B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
 C. Other _____

2. Abstract:
 A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
 B. Other _____

3. Amendments to the drawings: _____

4. Amendments to the claims:
 A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
 B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all claims (including withdrawn claims)
 C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified.
 D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
 E. Other: Claims 18-26 must include text

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP Sec. 714 and the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/ropa/preognitice/officeflyer.pdf>.

If the non-compliant amendment is a **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**, applicant is given ONE MONTH from the mail date of this letter to supply the corrected section which complies with 37 CFR 1.121. Failure to comply with 37 CFR 1.121 will result in non-entry of the preliminary amendment and examination on the merits will commence without consideration of the proposed changes in the preliminary amendment(s). This notice is not an action under 35 U.S.C. 132, and this **ONE MONTH** time limit is not extendable.

If the non-compliant amendment is a reply to a **NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION** (including a submission for an RCE), and since the amendment appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to be a reply (37 CFR 1.135(c)), applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE MONTH from the mailing of this notice within which to re-submit the corrected section which complies with 37 CFR 1.121 in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD ARE AVAILABLE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

If the amendment is a reply to a **FINAL REJECTION**, this form may be an attachment to an **Advisory Action**. **The period for response to a final rejection continues to run from the date set in the final rejection**, and is not affected by the non-compliant status of the amendment.

Veronica Everett
Legal Instruments Examiner (LIE)

(571) 272-1002
Telephone No.



JAN 28 2004

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JAN 28 2004
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

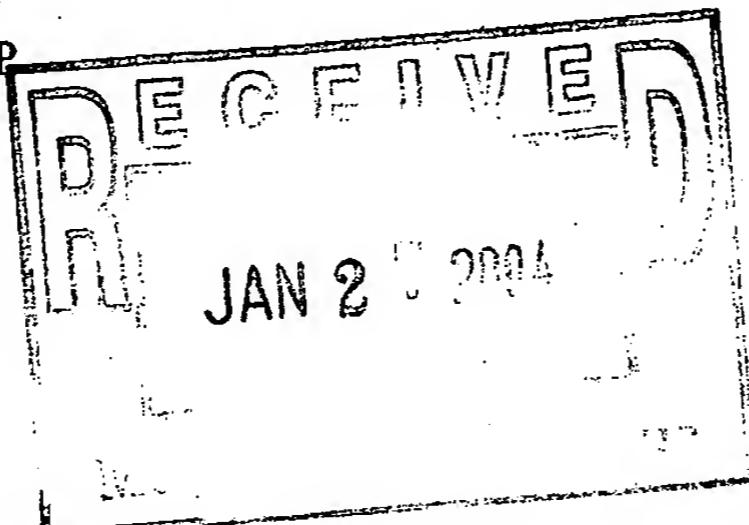
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/058,100	01/29/2002	Masahiro Kihara	360842008300	1199
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25227 7590 01/23/2004
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
1650 TYSONS BOULEVARD
SUITE 300
MCLEAN, VA 22102



EXAMINER

MENON, KRISHNAN S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1723

DATE MAILED: 01/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DOCKETED Resp Due

REMINDER:

FINAL DUE